

Substitute the following claims for the prior claims appearing in the instant application:

1.(currently amended) A part carrying apparatus comprising a part supporting structure and a communications device, the communications device including a wireless device being located entirely within the structure and ~~prevented from~~ accessible for external physical observation through a covered opening.

2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the structure is a pallet.

3.(original) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the pallet includes at least two polymeric sheets of material which are joined together.

4.(original) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the sheets of material are three-dimensionally shaped with heat.

5.(original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the structure includes at least two sheets of material.

6.(original) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the communications device is located between the sheets of material.

7.(original) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the sheets of material are polymeric.

8.(original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the communications device includes an integrated circuit and the structure is shaped with heat and compression, the device being attached to the structure during shaping.

9.(original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the structure includes at least three three-dimensionally shaped polymeric sheets, at least one of the sheets is three-dimensionally shaped

after attachment of the communications device to the sheet, the device is sandwiched between two of the sheets.

10.(currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the communications device ~~is~~ includes a radio frequency identification tag.

11.(currently amended) ~~An apparatus~~ A plastic pallet comprising; a first ~~sheet~~ member of polymeric material; at least a second ~~sheet~~ member of polymeric material permanently attached to the first sheet member, there being formed between said members a hollow section serviceable through an opening formed on at least the first and second members; a cover of polymeric material that closes the opening; and an ~~electrical communications~~ electronic device ~~entirely located between~~ sheltered within the sheets hollow section and accessed by the removal of the cover from said opening.

12.(currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 11 further comprising three dimensionally shaping the sheets after attachment of the communications device to at least one of the sheets.~~ The plastic pallet of claim 11 wherein the electronic device is a wireless interrogator that queries tagged articles supported upon the plastic pallet.

13.(currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 12 further comprising a heating device operable to heat the sheets in order to allow the sheets to be shaped.~~ The plastic pallet of claim 11 wherein the electronic device is a cellular digital communicator that has two-way communication with a host computer over a cellular digital network.

14.(currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the sheets define a fluid carrying container. The plastic pallet of claim 11 wherein the electronic device is a wireless internet two-way communicator.~~ (See pages 6 paragraph 0058 and 7 paragraph 0061.)

15.(currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the sheets define a gasoline tank. The plastic pallet of claim 11 wherein the electronic device includes a cellular digital communicator and a companion RF interrogator that communicates with tagged articles supported upon said plastic pallet.~~

16.(currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 11 wherein at least one of the sheets has multiple hollow legs formed to extend away from the other of the sheets. The plastic pallet of claim 11 wherein the electronic device includes a wireless internet two-way communicator and an RF interrogator that communicates with tagged articles supported upon said plastic pallet.~~

17.(currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the sheets define a pallet. The plastic pallet of claim 11 wherein the electronic device includes at least one RFID tag.~~

18.(currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the communications device includes a radio frequency identification tag and an interrogator. The plastic pallet of claim 11 wherein the electronic device is coupled to a power supply mechanism that generates storable power when the plastic pallet is agitated by physical movement.~~

19.(currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 11 further comprising a third polymeric sheet attached to at least one of~~

~~the first and second sheets, the third sheet being thermoformed into a three dimensional shape.~~ The plastic pallet of claim 11 wherein the electronic device is coupled to a power supply mechanism that rectifies storable power when induction occurs in an interrogation zone when external tags are queried.

20.(currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ plastic pallet of claim 11 wherein the ~~communications~~ electronic device is an interrogator.

21.(currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ plastic pallet of claim 11 further comprising adhesive securing the ~~communications~~ electronic device to at least one of the sheets at least prior to subsequent shaping of the sheet.

22.(currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ plastic pallet of claim 11 wherein the ~~communications~~ electronic device includes an integrated circuit mounted upon a flexible film substrate having a heat deflection capability of greater than about 600° Fahrenheit, and the substrate is mounted to at least one of the sheets.

23.(currently amended) An apparatus comprising a pallet made of recyclable thermoplastic material, and ~~an electrical communications~~ a wireless device located inside of the pallet and accessible through a covered opening while being substantially prevented from physical external exposure.

24.(currently amended) The apparatus of claim 23 further comprising a second ~~communications~~ electronic device located entirely inside of the pallet, the first ~~communications~~ electronic device containing externally readable data indicative of a first characteristic and the second ~~communications~~

electronic device containing externally readable data indicative of a second characteristic.

25. (original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the first characteristic indicates ownership of the pallet.

26. (original) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the second characteristic pertains to a characteristic of a part transportable by the pallet.

27. (original) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the second characteristic pertains to manufacturing process information.

28. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 23 further comprising an external interrogator operably communicating with the ~~communications~~ wireless device.

29. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the pallet includes at least two polymeric sheets of material with the ~~communications~~ wireless device located between the sheets of material.

30. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the ~~communications~~ wireless device is encapsulated within the pallet.

31. (original) The apparatus of claim 23 further comprising a battery located within the pallet and coupled to the ~~communications~~ wireless device, the battery being externally accessible and replaceable from outside of the pallet.

32. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

an article carrier made of a polymeric material; ~~and~~  
a radio frequency interrogator entirely located within the carrier, the interrogator being operable to read signals transmitted externally from the carrier; and

an external interrogator containing externally readable data.

33.(original) The apparatus of claim 32 wherein the carrier includes at least two polymeric sheets.

34.(original) The apparatus of claim 33 wherein the interrogator is attached to at least one of the sheets prior to three-dimensional shaping of the sheet.

35.(original) The apparatus of claim 32 wherein the carrier is a pallet.

36.(original) The apparatus of claim 32 wherein the interrogator includes a heat and compression resistant thermoplastic housing, an electrical circuit located inside the housing, and a power source connected to the circuit and removably located inside the housing, the housing is disposed inside of the carrier such that the carrier and housing are recyclable.

37.(currently amended) A pallet comprising:

a first polymeric ~~sheet~~ member;

at least a second polymeric ~~sheet~~ member attached to the first ~~sheet~~ member;

a first radio frequency identification tag located completely between the ~~sheets~~ members, the first tag containing information indicative of a first characteristic; and

a second externally readable identification tag located between the ~~sheets~~ members, the second tag containing data indicative of a second characteristic.

38.(original) The pallet of claim 37 wherein the second identification tag is a radio frequency identification tag.

39.(original) The pallet of claim 38 further comprising third and fourth radio frequency identification tags located between the sheets.

40.(original) An apparatus comprising a fluid carrying tank made from at least two sheets of heat formable polymeric materials, and an electrical wireless communications device located inside of the tank.

41.(original) A system comprising:

- a manufacturing machine;

- a receiver;

- an electrical control system connected to the receiver and the machine;

- a product having multiple sheets and a data storage device located between the sheets, the product being manufactured by the machine;

the receiver operably interfacing with the data storage device to ascertain data previously stored on the device, the control system changing manufacturing characteristics of the machine based on a data received from the device.

42.(original) The system of claim 41 wherein the data is ascertained by the receiver from the device prior to manufacturing of the product containing the device by the machine.

43.(original) The system of claim 41 wherein the machine includes a mold operable to three-dimensionally shape the product.

44.(original) The system of claim 41 wherein the machine includes a heater operable to heat the product to ease in forming.

45.(original) The system of claim 41 wherein the machine includes a sheet extruder for making the product prior to attachment of the data storage device.

46.(original) The system of claim 41 wherein the data storage device is a radio frequency identification tag.

47.(original) The system of claim 46 wherein the receiver is an interrogator operable communicating with the radio frequency identification tag.

48.(original) The system of claim 41 wherein the machine three-dimensionally shapes the product which subsequently becomes a pallet.

49.(original) The system of claim 41 wherein the data storage device includes an antenna located entirely inside of the product when in its final manufactured condition.

50.(currently amended) A method of making a product, the product including at least one sheet and a wireless communications device, the method comprising:

(a) creating the sheet;

(b) attaching the wireless communications device to the sheet;

(c) heating the sheet after step (b); and

(d) forming the sheet after step (b) with the wireless communications device encapsulated in the sheet.

51.(original) The method of claim 50 further comprising making an article carrier from the sheet.

52.(original) The method of claim 51 wherein the article carrier is a pallet.



53.(original) The method of claim 51 wherein the article carrier is a gasoline tank.

54.(currently amended) The method of claim 50 further comprising attaching a second formable sheet to the first sheet so as to sandwich the wireless communications device entirely between the sheets.

55.(original) The method of claim 54 further comprising thermoforming the sheets which are made of polymeric material.

56.(currently amended) The method of claim 50 further comprising three-dimensionally forming the sheet with the wireless communications device.

57.(currently amended) The method of claim 50 further comprising transmitting a radio frequency signal from the wireless communications device.

58.(currently amended) The method of claim 50 further comprising varying a manufacturing step in accordance with data contained within the communications device once the wireless communications device transmits the data to an external electrical control system controlling the manufacturing process.

59.(currently amended) The method of claim 50 further comprising robotically and automatically locating and attaching the wireless communications device to the sheet.

60.(currently amended) The method of claim 50 further comprising:

(a) extruding the sheet;

(b) cutting the sheet to a predetermined size; and

(c) thermoforming the sheet in a three-dimensional shape by use of heat and compression after the wireless communications

device is attached to a surface of the sheet.

61.(currently amended) A method of making a triple sheet product having an electrical identification tag, the method comprising:

- (a) three-dimensionally forming a first polymeric sheet;
- (b) three-dimensionally forming a second polymeric sheet;
- (c) three-dimensionally forming a third polymeric sheet;
- (d) joining the sheets together; and

(e) ~~attaching~~ encapsulating the tag inside of the ~~product~~ sheets such that the tag is hidden from physical external visibility.

62.(original) The method of claim 61 further comprising activating an interrogator to communicate with the identification tag.

63.(original) The method of claim 61 further comprising forming at least one of the sheets while the identification tag is attached to the sheet.

64.(currently amended) A method of making a pallet having an electronic device, the method comprising attaching the electronic device to a portion of the pallet prior to three-dimensionally shaping the portion with ~~heat~~. heat, and encapsulating the electronic device within the portion of the pallet such that the electronic device is hidden from physical external visibility.

65.(original) The method of claim 64 wherein the electronic device is an interrogator.

66.(original) The method of claim 64 wherein the device is a radio frequency identification tag.

67.(original) The method of claim 64 further comprising applying

adhesive between the electronic device and the adjacent portion of the pallet, and using the adhesive as a cushion when the portion is compressed during shaping.

68.(original) The method of claim 64 wherein the pallet includes at least two polymeric sheets which are three-dimensionally thermoformed and joined together.

69.(original)A method of manufacturing a product with machinery, and method comprising:

- (a) electrically communicating between the product and the machinery in a wireless manner;

- (b) changing an operational characteristic of the machinery prior to processing the product in the machinery, based on the communication of step (a); and

- (c) shaping the product with the machinery after step (b).

70.(original)The method of claim 69 wherein the product is a multiple sheet pallet, wherein the sheets are made of a polymeric material.

71.(original)The method of claim 69 further comprising communicating between the product and the machinery by transmitting radio frequencies to identify preprogrammed characteristics of the desired end product to be manufactured.

72.(currently amended) A method of using a pallet having an identification device, the method comprising:

- (a) preventing the identification device from being externally visible from outside of the pallet;

- (b) moving the pallet adjacent to an interrogator field;

- (c) reading data stored on the identification device after

steps (a) and (b);

(d) identifying a preprogrammed characteristic of the pallet as stored in the identification ~~device~~ device, and

(e) activating an indicator after an interrogator has received information from the identification device.

73. (cancelled)

74.(original) The method of claim 73 wherein the indicator is a user visible light that is located external to the pallet.